

Amendments To Claims

1-20. (Cancelled).

21. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~detecting an attempt at automated creation of a user account~~ providing a subscription to a computer-related service that is intended for use by individuals, comprising:

generating a communication that presents a stimulus that is perceptible by one or more human senses and poses a question that pertains to the stimulus in response to an attempt to subscribe to the computer-related service;

obtaining an answer to the question and comparing the answer to a correct answer that would be provided by a human being ~~attempting to create the user account~~ such that the question is selected to exercise a capability of the human being to perform common sense reasoning with respect to the stimulus.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, further comprising measuring a response time to the question and determining whether the response time is shorter than a response time of the human being ~~obtaining a set of material for rendering the stimulus and the question from a data store that holds a set of pre-selected material for a variety of stimuli and questions that exercise the capability of the human being to perform common sense reasoning.~~

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22, further comprising obtaining a set of material for rendering the stimulus and the question from a data store that holds a set of pre-selected material for a variety of stimuli and questions that exercise the capability of the human being to perform common sense reasoning wherein ~~obtaining a set of material comprises varying one or more visual characteristics of the~~

stimulus.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 23, wherein obtaining a set of material comprises varying one or more visual characteristics of the stimulus ~~further comprising measuring a response time to the question and determining whether the response time indicates that the answer was provided by the human being.~~

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the stimulus depicts a living thing.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the question pertains to a capability of the living thing.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the stimulus depicts the living thing visually.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the stimulus depicts the living thing using sound.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 25, further comprising adapting the stimulus to a disability of the human being.

30-40. (Cancelled).

41. (New) A system, comprising:

data store that holds a set of material for presenting a variety of stimuli that are perceptible by one or more human senses and for presenting a set of corresponding questions pertaining the stimuli such that each question is selected to exercise a capability of a human being to perform common sense reasoning with respect to the corresponding stimuli, the data

store also holding a set of correct answers for the questions;
service provider of a computer-related service that in response to an attempt to subscribe to the computer-related service generates a communication that presents one of the stimuli and the corresponding question using the material in the data store and that obtains an answer to the question presented in the communication and that compares the answer to the corresponding correct answer from the data store.

42. (New) The system of claim 41, wherein the service provider determines a response time to the question presented in the communication and determines whether the response time is shorter than a response time of the human being.

43. (New) The system of claim 42, wherein the material includes a set of pre-selected images.

44. (New) The system of claim 42, wherein the service provider varies the pre-selected images when generating the communication.

45. (New) The system of claim 42, wherein the material includes a set of pre-selected sounds.

46. (New) The system of claim 41, wherein one or more of the stimuli are adapted to a disability of the human being.

47. (New) A method for determining whether a communication originates with a human being, comprising:

generating a response to the communication wherein the response presents a stimulus that is perceptible by one or more human senses and poses a question that pertains to the stimulus;
measuring a response time to the question presented in the response and determining whether the response time is shorter

than a response time of the human being.

48. (New) The method of claim 47, further comprising obtaining an answer to the question presented in the response and comparing the answer to a correct answer that would be provided by the human being such that the question is selected to exercise a capability of the human being to perform common sense reasoning with respect to the stimulus.

49. (New) The method of claim 48, further comprising obtaining a set of material for rendering the stimulus and the question from a data store that holds a set of pre-selected material for a variety of stimuli and questions that exercise the capability of the human being to perform common sense reasoning.

50. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein obtaining a set of material comprises varying one or more visual characteristics of the stimulus.

51. (New) The method of claim 47, further comprising adapting the stimulus to a disability of the human being.